

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

BOOZMAN, John (Republican)
Representative, 3rd District, Arkansas
Elected 20Nov01 to 107th Congress
Reelected to succeeding Congress



BACKGROUND

Born: Shreveport, Louisiana - 10 December 1950
Home: Rogers, Arkansas
Marital status: Married (Cathy) - 3 children
Religion: Baptist
Education: Univ of Arkansas, 1969-1972; Southern College of Optometry, O.D. 1977
Military: None
Profession: Optometrist; cattle farm owner
Political: Rogers Board of Education, 1994-2001. Defeated State Rep Mike Hathorn (D) with 56% of the vote in the 20Nov01, special election to succeed Rep Asa Hutchinson (R), who resigned 6Aug01, to become Director, DEA. Sworn in on 29Nov01. Reelected in 2002 with 99% of the vote.

Rep Boozman is a moderate Republican who describes himself as a consensus builder. Recommended a Social Security plan that includes setting aside some funds in private accounts, but only for people years away from retirement. Supports tougher immigration laws and stricter border protection. Said Americans should not overreact to the terrorist attacks by sacrificing civil liberties. In the 107th Congress, urged his colleagues to support legislation to ensure that air travel is safe from terrorist threats. Along with other members of the Arkansas delegation, appeals to the Sec/Def to have the Pine Bluff Arsenal selected as the site for a government-owned vaccine production laboratory.

In the 108th Congress participated in a series of field hearings on the state of the aviation industry in the US, noting that small community air service was of particular interest to his district's economy. Toured Seattle's Boeing facility in March 2003 to see first hand how instability in the commercial airline industry is affecting the aerospace sector. During the Memorial Day recess participated in the NATO Parliamentary Sessions in Prague that discussed NATO enlargement, the situation in Iraq, and the WMD threat to NATO. Said "We are fighting a different enemy, with a different strategy, but still need the help of our friends in Europe."

Additional: His brother Fay Boozman, lost to Blanche Lincoln (D) as the GOP nominee in the 1998 Senate race. His father is a retired AF Master Sergeant. His chief of staff, Stephen Gray, who is working out the district office, served 24 years in the Air Force, including 3 years in the Pentagon as an assistant to the chief of staff of the Air Force.

AF Bases: Ft. Smith MAP (Reserve Forces)

COMMITTEES

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE – Subcs on: Aviation; Highways, Transit & Pipelines; Water Resources & the Environment

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